

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN VICKI COCCHIARELLA**, on January 19, 2005 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Duane Grimes (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Glenn Roush (D)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Carolyn Squires (D)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Bill Tash (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jon Tester (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Annie Glover, Committee Secretary
Pat Murdo, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 8, 1/14/2005; SB 188, 1/14/2005;
SB 189, 1/14/2005
Executive Action: SB 165, SB 189

00:00:01

HEARING ON SB 8

Opening Statement by Sponsor: SEN. GLENN ROUSH (D), SD 8, opened the hearing on SB 8, Revise terminology and procedure in workers' compensation laws.

EXHIBIT(bus14a01)

EXHIBIT(bus14a02)

EXHIBIT(bus14a03)

00:04:02

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. Jerry Keck, Employment Relations Division, Department of Labor and Industry

Ms. Diana Ferriter, Department of Labor and Industry

Ms. Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund

Mr. George Wood, Executive Secretary, Montana Self Insurers Association

Mr. Bob Worthington, Montana Municipal Insurance Authority

Mr. Douglas Nulle, Retired Worker's Compensation Attorney

Opponents' Testimony: None.

00:19:40

Informational Testimony:

Ms. Amy Pfeifer, Attorney, Child Support Enforcement Division

EXHIBIT(bus14a04)

00:22:23

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:36:23

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:16

HEARING ON SB 188

Opening Statement by Sponsor: SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA (D), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 188, Clarify role and responsibility of work comp adjusters.

EXHIBIT(bus14a05)

00:43:43

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. George Wood, Executive Secretary, Montana Self Insurers Association

Mr. Bob Worthington, Montana Municipal Insurance Authority

Mr. Shawn Bubb, Director of Insurance, Montana School Board Association

Mr. Jed Fitch, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

00:47:35

Closing by Sponsor:

00:47:51

HEARING ON SB 189

Opening Statement by Sponsor: SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA (D), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 189, Clarify conditions for work comp impairment evaluation.

00:51:38

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. George Wood, Executive Secretary, Montana Self Insurers Association

Ms. Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund

Mr. Bob Worthington, Montana Municipal Insurance Association

Opponents' Testimony: None.

00:52:30

Informational Testimony:

Mr. Jerry Keck, Employee Relations Division, Department of Labor and Industry

00:53:08

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:54:23

Closing by Sponsor:

00:55:00

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 165

Motion: SEN. GRIMES moved that SB 165 DO PASS.

Discussion:

Motion/Vote: SEN. SQUIRES moved that SB 165 BE AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: SEN. SQUIRES moved that SB 165 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously.

00:59:32

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 5

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus14a06)

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus14a07)

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus14a08)

Motion: SEN. BALYEAT moved that SB 5 DO PASS.

Discussion:

SEN. BALYEAT withdrew his motion.

01:29:26

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 189

Motion/Vote: SEN. GRIMES moved that SB 189 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously.

SEN. COCCHIARELLA PROXIED FOR SEN. TESTER ON ALL MOTIONS IN THIS COMMITTEE TODAY

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:40 A.M.

SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA, Chairman

ANNIE GLOVER, Secretary

VC/AG

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([bus14aad0.PDF](#))